

To: Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]; smontoya@ap.org[smontoya@ap.org]; Gray, David[gray.david@epa.gov]
From: Gray, David
Sent: Tue 9/8/2015 11:08:54 PM
Subject: RE: Navajo statement regarding Gold King Mine spill

Susan,

Another response for you. Here is the information regarding the calculation of the release as it made its way downstream. Perhaps their reference is to the continued flow from the mine.

You can find information about flow rates in one of the attachments to our internal review - which has a nice historical summary too. Based upon 2009-2014 flow data, the average annual discharge from the Gold King Mine and three nearby mines (Mogul, Red and Bonita, and American Tunnel) reached approximately 330 million gallons per year.

USGS measured increased flows at a streamgage starting at about 12:30 p.m. and ending about 7:15 p.m. This resulted in a provisional calculated flow volume of 3,043,067 gallons discharged from the Gold King Mine. The EPA's original estimate of 1 million gallons discharged from the Gold King Mine was based on an estimate of the size of the adit. A streamgage is an instrument that measures volume by measuring flow, which is much more precise.

David and Nancy

From: Montoya, Susan [mailto:smontoya@ap.org]
Sent: Tuesday, September 08, 2015 3:08 PM
To: Press; Harrison, Melissa; Grantham, Nancy
Subject: RE: Navajo statement regarding Gold King Mine spill

All,

Erin Brockovich is touring the Navajo Nation today. During an address in Shiprock she stated the agency isn't telling the truth about the amount of wastewater spilled from the mine,

suggesting it was far more than 3 million gallons. The Navajo president has asserted the same.

Can you please weigh in here?

Susan

From: Montoya, Susan

Sent: Tuesday, September 08, 2015 10:57 AM

To: 'press@epa.gov'; 'grantham.nancy@epa.gov'; 'harrison.melissa@epa.gov'

Cc: 'FEMA-News-Desk@fema.dhs.gov'

Subject: Navajo statement regarding Gold King Mine spill

Good morning Nancy and Melissa,

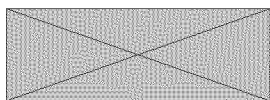
Not sure which one of you might be in the best position to address this. The Navajos said late Friday that EPA and FEMA declined the tribe's request for continued assistance in the wake of the Gold King spill. What's the agency's position here? What requests have been denied?

These questions apply to FEMA as well.

This is for a story that will be moving within the next hour.

Thanks for the help,

Susan



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From: Navajo Nation Press Office [<mailto:press@operationyellowwater.com>]

Sent: Friday, September 04, 2015 8:30 PM

To: press

Subject: Statement by President Begaye regarding FEMA denying assistance for Gold King Mine Spill



NAVAJO NATION OFFICE OF THE
PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT
RUSSELL BEGAYE | JONATHAN NEZ

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Navajo Nation Press Shop
press@operationyellowwater.com

September 4, 2015

Statement by President Begaye regarding FEMA denying assistance for Gold King Mine Spill

"We are extremely frustrated with the news that both FEMA and the U.S. EPA have declined our urgent requests to continue assistance to the Navajo Nation. U.S. EPA caused this entire disaster, they have harmed the people, the water and the land. I appreciated the fact U.S. EPA took responsibility and I was hoping for the U.S. EPA to prove to the Navajo Nation they are willing to hold themselves accountable. This action clearly shows otherwise. For years, we have consistently been at the receiving end of toxic spills and contamination with no adequate relief as the United States Government and Private Companies became wealthy off of the natural resources of the Navajo Nation.

This is not the end but the beginning as I will continue to fight for my people."

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